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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

BOARD OF NATIONAL ESTIMATES

8 May 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Allan Evans (OIR)
Colonel Gerald F. Lillard, USA (G-2)
Captain Allan L. Reed, USN (ONI)
Colonel Jack E. Thomas, USAF (AFOIN-2B)
Captain John A. Holbrook, USN (JIG)

SUBJECT : NIE-96: Thailand's Ability to Withstand
Communist Pressures or Attacks

1. The Director of Central Intelligence has requested, for the National Security Council, an estimate of Thailand's political, military, and economic strength, with particular emphasis on Thai capabilities for withstanding external and internal Communist pressures or attacks.

2. It is planned to prepare this estimate in time for the IAC to consider it on 26 May.

3. Attached are draft terms of reference which cover rather fully the pertinent questions as they appear to the Board of National Estimates.

4. We realize that in view of the deadline of this estimate you cannot undertake to prepare full and detailed contributions. We note that pertinent sections of the NIS on Thailand are available as well as considerable additional background data.

5. We therefore request that your representative meet with us at 2:00 Tuesday, 12 May, in Room 146 South Building, for the purpose of reviewing the attached draft terms of reference and to arrange for the preparation of contributions on those important questions on which we now have inadequate material.

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6. IAC approval for initiating this project will be requested at the next IAC meeting. Would you please therefore brief your principals on the basis of this communication.

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Executive Secretary

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Secretary, IAC

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